New Technique for Processing Pine-Apple Leaf Fibre

2652. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a South India Textile Research Association, Coimbatore has developed a processing technique for spinning pine-apple leaf fibre for apparels;

(b) what are the comparative benefits of new fibre as well as from cotton and synthetic fibres;

(c) whether Government have finally approved the new fibre; and

(d) if so, the details of the plans being chalked out for the extensive use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This is a low cost fibre and is expected to provide large scale rural employment.

(c) and (d) South India Textile Research Association, Coimbatore has submitted a project to disseminate its findings for using pineapple plant leaf fibre for manufacturing of yarn and fabrics.

The project has been approved by the inter departmental Screening Committee.

Export of Jute

2653. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is the second largest exporter of Jute goods next only to Bangladesh;

(b) what was the export of jute goods from India to E.E.C. countries during the last three years as against the export target stipulated for the said period; year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that importers from EEC countries Japan, Australia and New Zealand have shown a keen interest in both traditional as well as diversified jute products manufactured in India; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to boost exports of jute goods to General Currency Areas in particular and other areas in general?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Export of jute goods from India to EEC during the last three years is given below:—

	Rs. crores
1989-90	54.12
1990-91	34.99
1991-92	75.24

Country-wise targets for exports were not fixed.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Multidimensional activities have been undertaken for promotion of jute exports including participation in international fairs, organising buyers-sellers meats, commissioning of market studies, liaising with importers and end-users and conducting publicity compaigns. In addition exports have been promoted through extension of marketing assistance and DGS&D orders for supply of jute bags have been linked with an obligation to export jute products to General Currency Area countries.

हथ करघा वस्त्र के लिए सती धागे की आपूर्ति प्रणाली में सुधार

2654. श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :
डा० जितेन्द्र कुमार जैन :

क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा

करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हथकरघा क्षेत्र के लिए सूती धागे की आपूर्ति सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सरकार ने वर्तमान सूती धागा आपूर्ति प्रणाली में कुछ सुधार किए हैं ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार इस सूती धागे पर राज-सहायता देती है और इस सूती धागे का अधिकांश भाग अन्य क्षेत्रों को चला जाता है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो वर्तमान प्रणाली में क्या-क्या सुधार किए गए हैं; और

(घ) यदि कोई सुधार नहीं किए गए हैं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

वस्त्र मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री **अशोक गहलोत**): (क) सरकार ने अपनी नीति उपायों के माध्यम से, जिनकी बाजार स्थिति को देखते हुए समय-समय पर समीक्षा की जाती है, हथकरघा क्षेत्र में पर्याप्त मात्रा में सूती धागा उपलब्ध कराने के प्रयत्न किए हैं।

(ख) जी नहीं।

(ग) कोन यार्न पर शुल्क में आंशिक समायोजन, हथकरघा बुनकरों द्वारा प्रयोग किए जाने वाले हैंक यार्न को शुल्क से मुक्त रखने, नई कताई मिलों अथवा वर्तमान मिलों के विस्तार और उनके आधुनिकीकरण के लिए राशि के प्रावधान से हथकरघा क्षेत्र में हैंक यार्न की उपलब्धता में वृद्धि होगी। हथकरघा बुनकरों को सूत की उपलब्धता में सुधार लाने के लिए हैंक यार्न दायित्व अधिसूचना भी एक उपाय है।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Tenders Floated for Selling of Cotton by Cotton Corporation of India

2655. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Cotton Corporation of India is floating tenders to sell cotton in Nepal Bangladesh and Sri Lanka markets; and

(b) if so, what is the quantity intended for export and at what rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) Government has authorised the Cotton Corporation of India to meet the requirements of cotton some of our neighbouring countries like Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, in the context of bilateral trade agreements, upto 30,000 bales. The CCI has accordingly floated tenders for export of the afore-said quantity of cotton which will be sold at the prevailing international prices subject to the minimum export price fixed by Government.

Incentive on handloom product instead on concession in taxes on yarn

2656. SHRI SOM PAL:
DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that concessions in taxes on yarn supplied to handloom industry are being misused and such yarn goes to textile mills and powerlooms; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to consider an alternative of incentives on the final handloom product which will directly benefit the handloom sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) While Government has no specific information of such mis-use, Government has received reports that cross-reeled hank yarn is liable to be used in powerlooms.